

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

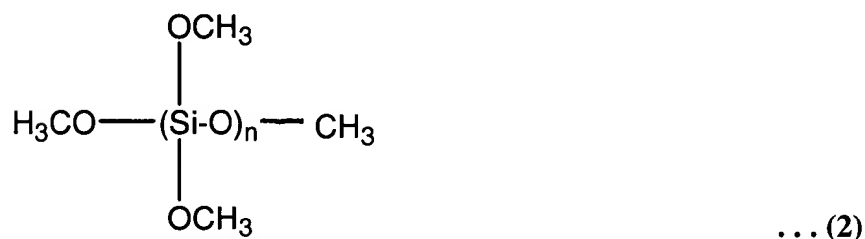
LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A top coating composition which comprises

a coating film-forming resin (I);

and a silicate-grafted resin (IV) resulting from graft polymerization of an organosilicate compound (II) onto a hydrolysable silyl-containing resin (III), wherein said organosilicate compound (II) is selected from the group consisting of methyl silicate or condensation product

thereof represented by the general formula (2),



in the formula, n represents an integer of 1 to 30 and ethyl silicate or condensation product thereof represented by the general formula (3),



in the formula, n represents an integer of 1 to 30 and condensation product thereof.

2. (Currently amended): A top coating composition which comprises a coating film-forming resin(I);

and a silicate-grated resin (IV) resulting from graft polymerization of a silicate compound (II) onto a hydrolysable silyl-containing resin (III);

wherein said silicate compound (II) is a modified silicate compound represented by the general formula (1):



in the formula, n represents an integer of 1 to 30; at least one of the R¹ groups is an organic group represented by R² - (O - CH₂ - CHR³)_m -, where R² is an alkyl group containing 1 to 8 carbon atoms, a phenyl group or a benzyl group, R³ is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group and m is an integer of 1 to 4, and the remaining R¹ groups each is a methyl or ethyl group.

3. (previously presented): The top coating composition according to Claim 1, wherein said hydrolysable silyl-containing resin (III) is an acrylic resin obtained by radical polymerization of silanol-and/or hydrolysable silyl-containing, radical-polymerizable monomer (III-a), a hydroxyl-containing, radical-polymerizable monomer (III-b) and another radical-polymerizable monomer (III-c).

4. (original): The top coating composition according to Claim 1, wherein said coating film-forming resin (I) comprises a hydroxyl-containing resin a polyisocyanate compound.

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5. (previously presented): The top coating composition according to claim 2, wherein said hydrolysable silyl-containing resin (III) is an acrylic resin obtained by radical polymerization of a silanol-and/or hydrolysable silyl-containing, radical-polymerizable monomer (III-a), a hydroxyl-containing, radical-polymerizable monomer (III-b) and another radical-polymerizable monomer (III-c).

6. (original): The top coating composition according to claim 2, wherein said coating film-forming resin (I) comprises a hydroxyl-containing resin and a polyisocyanate compound.

7. (original): The top coating composition according to claim 3, wherein said coating film-forming resin (I) comprises a hydroxyl-containing resin and a polyisocyanate compound.

8-9. (canceled).